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Newsletter

Number 17

20 June 2014



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Thanks

.. to room 6 parents for your attendance at parent / teacher interviews this week. We understand that scheduling your interviews earlier than school interviews entailed some inconvenience for you. We appreciate your support and that we did not field one word of complaint.

.. to those awesome parents who have offered to host a Korean student in their homes.

People of the week

.. Brayden Deeming who is appreciated by so many children for being such an awesome friend ... always well-mannered and cheerful. A great role model Brayden.

.. Jack Hudson who so kindly donated some of his favourite books to the school this week so other children could enjoy them.

.. Those students who participated in the 20 Hour Famine ... our students will have raised in excess of \$1,500. Well done to all involved!

.. Tokomauri Tito received "Player of the Day" and Asher O'Donnell received "Tackler of the Day" for JB1 Kamo White.

Term Events

Please pencil the following dates into your calendar (a few are tentative). We will advise of further dates as these come to hand.

24 June	Year 4 to 6 Winter Sports Tournament
25 June	Middle school ten pin bowling
26 June	Portfolios sent home
30 J/1 May	Parent / teacher interviews
2 July	Year 8 girls HPV vaccination 2
4 July	Final day of term 2 (term 3 starts 21.7)

Parent / teacher interviews

This week parents will have received an invitation to make an online parent / teacher appointment for interviews scheduled for 30 June or 1 July (or alternatively to contact our school office). These are booked on a "first in" basis and so we strongly recommend you book asap. You can do this online by visiting www.schoolinterviews.co.nz, and entering the event code **H9GH2**

School Council - Wacky Hair Day - 27 June

This is to advise that the School Council will be holding a Wacky Hair Day on Friday 27 June. Certificates will be awarded for tallest hair do, most original, most colourful, most curly etc. etc.

Optional, of course, but we hope lots of children will join in the fun.

New Virtue ... COMMITMENT

Please find attached material for discussion and at home. Remember to talk about how commitment works in your life and perhaps set some goals together. Please let us know of any special progress.

Notice of early finish to school days

As advised school will finish at 2:30 PM on 30 June and 1 July to allow teachers time to prepare for interviews. Please note that buses will run approximately 30 minutes earlier on these days. Parents who pick their children up from school are asked to do so at this earlier time please. We apologise for any inconvenience caused by these changes. (Please note that bus drop off times can vary from the usual on these days due to unpredictable bus loadings).

Some reminders from the last newsletter

- .. Parents of year 7 and 8 children who have not yet paid their child's technology fees are asked to do so as soon as possible please,
- .. Please remember the 40 km speed limit when passing the school before and after school.
- .. the school song music has now been uploaded to the school website thanks to Mr Schuster.

Science Fair

Please contact Mrs Donaldson or Mr D early if you detect any problems ... before these become bigger problems. Our intention is not only for children to learn skills essential for secondary school (and beyond) but also to feel successful. So ... keep in touch and please follow the timeline.

School Cross-Country

Early notice that this is likely to be held some time week beginning 4 August. Exact date to follow.

Famine money / booklets

Five more to come back. To school on Monday please so we can bank. Thank you.

Maths Labs - Term 3

A number of parents have informed us that they would place their children in after school labs if it was not for the weekly winter sports practices. Next term we will offer labs on 3 days (instead of 2) to remove this barrier to involvement. Children must still attend 2 sessions per week and days are not interchangeable once they have been set. This is a valuable and very inexpensive opportunity to give your child a learning boost.

If you receive an invitation to enrol your child please give this serious consideration. Our data tells us that these children are making accelerated progress .. and we cannot guarantee maths labs in 2015. Any questions please contact Kevin, Katie or your child's teacher.

Please Note: There will be no maths labs on Monday 30 June due to the Parent/Teacher interviews.

Junior School Request

It would be very much appreciated if anyone could donate to the Junior School some spare boys clothes - trousers/trackies and t-shirts. Thank you.



Whanau Meeting

... will now be held at 3:15 PM on Friday 27 June.

Out of Zone Enrolments

The school is already receiving out of zone enquiries. The board remains committed to keeping our roll below 300 and so out of zone places will be strictly limited in 2015. **If you are an out of zone family with a child turning 5 next year can you please advise Kevin by 24 June.** This is NOT a guarantee of placement but we do try hard to reserve places for siblings of current out of zone students. In 2013 some families did not respond to this request and, consequently, we had the difficult task of advising them that we were unable to accept their child for the following year.

International Schools competitions

A reminder that these exams are scheduled as follows ... English - 29 July ... Mathematics -12 August. Practice papers for the mathematics Competition will be issued next week. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that children sit at least 2 practice papers a week at home (parents will also need to mark these - marking sheet provided).

Winter Sports Tournaments - 24.6

Please ensure children bring their Matarau T-shirts, gear appropriate to their sport, lunch, drink bottle, warm jacket and spending money at your discretion. Children will travel by bus returning by 3:00 PM. Parents are warmly invited to support our teams by dropping by to Kensington Park at any time throughout the day.

Term Contribution / Activity Fee

If you have not yet paid term contributions or activity fees please do so at your convenience. Remember to contact us if you want to discuss alternative payment arrangements.

Matarau Hockey

Well done to the following "Players of the Day"



Mini Sticks
Natasha

Kia Kaha

Constable Ian Anderson has been working extremely hard supporting the Middle School with our Anti-Bullying programme. He has established a fantastic rapport with all the students in the middle school. A huge thank you for all your work and I know that your message will leave a lasting impression.

Student Teachers

A huge thank you to Katrina Perry and Brian Taylor who have been working in Rooms 9 and 11 in recent weeks. They have a bright future ahead of them and have made a real connection with the students. Best of luck and keep in touch.

Healthy Homes Tai Tokerau

If you have children between 0-16 years (or with elderly people or those with health conditions) AND a community services card AND are living in a house built before 2000 you may be entitled to a 100% subsidy on home insulation. Tenants are also eligible if the landlord approves and is willing to make a \$575 contribution (latter can be waived in some circumstances).

For more information contact Melanie Dalziel MelanieD@manaiapho.co.nz phone 021 415665 Or the Healthy Homes Freephone: 0800 738 763 or website: <http://healthyhomestaitokerau.co.nz/subsidies/>

Portfolios and National Standards Sheets (from last week)

In coming weeks children will receive portfolios and National Standards data sheets. At Matarau School we have gone to considerable lengths to ensure that both of these documents provide you with diverse impressions of your child's progress and attainment. We encourage parents to ...

- ... look at progress over time and note patterns (as opposed to 'one offs')
- ... not place too much emphasis on assessment results that contradict established patterns - this happens!
- ... balance data based assessments with samples in the portfolio (these are just as important)
- ... understand that children accelerate, slow, plateau, and accelerate again ... just as we do as adults
- ... remember that norm referenced scores are very difficult to shift in the short (and sometimes the longer) term ... these tests are designed this way.
- ... National Standards are very broadly based ... across multiple tests and including hundreds of skill areas. Again, most children may shift in test areas but may well not shift their National Standards assessment.
- ... celebrate the gains and be positive about the next steps.

Finally .. Visit by Joseph Sullivan

This week our school was visited by Olympic gold medallist rower Joseph Sullivan. Joseph inspired the children (and staff) with his story, and with his humility. Maybe ask your children what they learnt from his visit. We have a whole lot of children now who are pretty keen to become Olympians. You never know!

Regards

Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them



Community Notices

For Sale - Pinecones for sale \$7.00 per bag, Phone Jared or Hayden on 4335565.

Wanted – Old timber and roofing iron suitable for building a children's bus shelter. Please contact Dan 0275034076.

Time Travelling Musical Adventure - Rising Starz performs "Timelord" at Captaine Bougainville Theatre, Forum North. Saturday 14th June 1pm & 6pm. Suitable for all ages \$8 a ticket. Tickets available from students of Rising Starz or Kauri Shop, Town Basin. For more info email risingstarznz@gmail.com or ph/text 021 441 455.

Northland Youth Theatre - Term 2 Classes start up on Monday the 5th! Juniors: Classes for 9-11 years, Tuesdays 4pm-5.30pm with Jan Fisher, Experience the art and learn the craft of theatre through theatre games, creative movement and improvisation with Jan. Intermediates: Classes for 12-13 years, Mondays 4pm-5.30pm with Naomi Bromberg. For more info phone 09 438 4453 or email office@nyt.org.nz

Minecraft Courses – Back by popular demand with all new content. Bubble Dome are offering June holiday courses - Minecraft Java & Plugins and Minecraft Inventions & Challenges where children will create plugins using the Java programming language and taking part in a range of architectural and engineering challenges. Financial assistance available for students. Ph 0800438282, email info@bubbledome.co.nz or book online at www.bubbledome.co.nz.

OSCAR School Holiday Programme - All Stars-Kids in Action, Monday 7th – Friday 11th July, Monday 14th – Friday 18th July. Raumanga - The Pulse, 8.00am-5.30pm, \$35.00per day, 5-14 years. Activities will include: Lazer Maze/10 Pin Bowling, Aquatics Centre fun, Golf at Denby, BBQ Party, arts & crafts & more.

New Drama Class - for 5 and 6 year olds, Banana Drama 3.20pm Tuesday at Whangarei Theatre Company, Starting Term Three. Beginners drama activities to help your young imaginer find their voice with trained acting teacher and voice coach Helen Morton-Jones. Enrol on line www.makingascene.co.nz. **Ta-Da classes ages 7-9 Tue at WTC** drama in a real theatre. **Acting and Speaking and Theatre in Action yr6 - int. & sec. sch** Wed-Tue. Just Drama ages 5-8 Wed- Ruakaka: inquire info@makingascene.co.nz

Native Healing Herbals School Holiday Program - learn how to make natural products using native plants, no chemicals & beneficial ingredients, in a fun safe environment. Kids will make healing kawakawa balm, all natural lipbalm, cook a healthy meal from garden to plate, makesoap and kowaowao (clay flute, ages 8-13years, boys and girls, limited spaces, bookings essential. for program dates, fees and details refer to www.nativehealingherbals.co.nz or phone 02102892743 / 0212335438.

Hurupaki Educare - July Holiday Programme - Open Monday 7th July to Friday 18th July, 8.00am to 5.30pm, Hurupaki School Hall. Activities include trips to ten pin bowling, movies, party days, Lion's Den, Disney Day, skating, loom band day, along with other action packed days. OSCAR accredited, families can apply for WINZ assistance – conditions apply. Discounts available for two or more children from the one family. To view and download forms go to www.schoolholidayprogrammes.co.nz or contract Christin on 0274-821331 or info@schoolholidayprogrammes.co.nz for more information.